

IN SPECIFICATION

Please amend Paragraph 5 as follows:

Remote access and retrieval of data is becoming increasingly popular in data communication. The proliferation of the Internet has provided a vast network of information that is available to the general public. As the Internet grows and technology advances, this information is becoming increasingly voluminous and the details are ~~become~~ becoming increasingly intricate. What used to comprise mainly text information has grown to include still and moving images as well as sound. The increase in the volume of information to be transferred has presented a need for a high-speed Internet connection, since traditional telephone modems communicate at speeds too slow for efficient communication.

Please amend Paragraph 7 as follows:

ADSL is currently the most practical form of DSL technology, and therefore the most widely implemented. ADSL is asymmetric in that its downstream (DS or D/S -- to a subscriber) capacity is larger than its upstream (US or U/S -- from the subscriber) capacity. An ADSL transceiver unit at ~~a central office~~ a central office or remote loop carrier (ATU-C) is used for sending downstream information and receiving upstream information. An ADSL transceiver unit at a remote location or user end (ATU-R) is used for receiving downstream information and sending upstream information. Typically, a Discrete Multi-tone (DMT) scheme is used. The spectrum from 4kHz to 1.1MHz is divided into 256 sub-channels, or tones, each having a bandwidth of 4.3125kHz. Each sub-channel uses Quadrature Amplitude Modulation (QAM) to carry 2 to 15 bits/QAM symbol.

Please amend Paragraph 62 as follows:

In yet another alternate embodiment, the ATU-R determines the amount of downstream power cutback that can be tolerated while meeting the target downstream rate and SNR margin. In order to determine the SNR impact of a reduced downstream transmit signal where mis-equalization error may be dominant, the ATU-R requires several parameters. These parameters include an estimate of the receiver noise floor over the downstream frequency band in the absence of the downstream signal, an estimate of the channel attenuation in the downstream band, and knowledge of the provisioned downstream rates and margins (i.e., maximums and targets). The ATU-R calculates the achievable downstream cutback from ~~the~~ this information and communicates the cutback back to the ATU-C, which implements the cutback in time for the ATU-R to re-adjust its receiver AGC prior to the SNR estimation during C-MEDLEY. A sample method for estimating the above-described parameters is described as follows.